

## SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

July 9, 2009 7:00 PM

Town Hall Meeting Room

Present: First Selectman Woody Bliss, Selectmen Gayle Weinstein, Glenn Major, Moderator of the meeting Bob Uzenoff, Town Administrator Tom Landry, Secretary Donna M. Anastasia.

Also present: Paul Heifitz, Ellen Strauss, Eileen Buckley, Susan Moran, Ernie Albin, Stephan Grozinger, Patty Gay of the Weston Forum, Bob Schaaf, John Hammerslough, Steve Ezzes, John Conte, Margaret Wirtenberg, Paul Deysenroth, Jane Gray, Caroline Mulcahey, Ellen Uzenoff, Jane Connolly, Martha Diamant, Bob Turner, legal counsel Ken Bernhard, Don and Phyllis Gary, Hal Matthews, Amy Sanborn, Bill McDonough, Mike O'Brien, Curtis Gunn, Larry Roberts, Judy Devito, Patty Kopas, Dr. Tom Aquila, Jess DiPasquale, Barbara Ford Bob Gardner, Barbara Roland, Bill Brady, Bob Atkinson, Lynn Langlois, Maria Kalivas, Laura Smits and several others in attendance.

First Selectman Bliss called the Special Town Meeting to order at 7:10 pm and lead the assembly into the Pledge of Allegiance.

Bob Uzenoff was nominated as Moderator, motion seconded and carries unanimously. Mr. Uzenoff made a motion to appoint Donna M. Anastasia as secretary of the meeting and Steve Ezzes as Parliamentarian; with none opposed motion carries.

The reading of the call:

The voters of the Town of Weston, Connecticut, pursuant to Article 2 of the Weston Town Charter and 8-24 of the CGS are hereby warned and notified that a Special Town Meeting will be held in the Weston Town Hall Meeting Room, 56 Norfield Road, Weston Connecticut, on Thursday July 9, 2009 at 7:00 PM to discuss and vote to approve the replacement of the Valley Forge Road Bridge as follows:

1. Be it resolved that the Weston Town Meeting authorize the Board of Selectmen ("Board") to arrange for the planning, demolition and replacement of the Valley Forge Road Bridge.

Dated at Weston, Connecticut as of the 18<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2009.

Board of Selectmen  
Sherwood B. Bliss, First Selectman  
W. Glenn Major, Selectman  
Gayle Weinstein, Selectman

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Mr. Uzenoff went over voting procedures, eligibility to vote, fraudulent voting which is detailed in the Moderators handbook, available from the Town Clerk.

Mr. Uzenoff asked for any non-voting attendees to sit in the non-voting section.

First Selectman Bliss made a motion to approve the planning, demolition and replacement of the Valley Forge Bridge.

Meeting was opened for discussion. There was discussion regarding State and Federal grants. Several residents expressed concern whether the bridge required replacement. The Valley Forge bridge was previously planned for repair however the storm that damaged the Cartbridge bridge forced the Valley bridge to be put on hold.

Mr. Landry explained the urgency of moving forward with the project due to federal time constraints. He would like to lock-in the funding and schedule work to begin immediately upon next summer recess.

There was discussion regarding the approval of the Planning & Zoning commission and an A2 survey requirement.

Seth Miller, Valley Forge expressed his concerns about the bridge because his driveway is nearby.

Amy Chadwick, Oak Lane expressed concerns regarding wildlife and archaeological significance.

John Hammerslough, Kettle Creek Rd made a motion to amend the proposal to include the requirement of an A2 survey before proceeding.

Motion seconded. Legal counsel gave some clarification regarding the motion. He explained that the Town Meeting this evening is to vote either in favor or against the project. He explained there would be no need for another town Meeting. The project can move forward to vote that the Board of Selectmen proceed with the project after obtaining an A2 survey.

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There was some discussion regarding the voting process.

Mr. Uzenoff asked for a standing vote to call the question. Motion defeated.

First Selectman Bliss addressed the proposed amendment. He explained that we have a proposal at a cost of 4,800. He is very concerned about spending too much time having a survey done and the proposal going to P&Z and losing the funding especially in this economic climate. He pointed out that A2 surveys are not done on roads, bridges or routes like route 1, towns and cities do not normally do this. However if the general sense of the meeting is to require an A2 survey my motion would be to require the survey and have the proposal handled expeditiously with P&Z so the State can submit the proposal to the Federal Highway Authority.

Moderator: Mr. Uzenoff call for a vote on the amendment only.

Amendment is as follows:

**The town of Weston will obtain an A2 survey and present it to the Planning & Zoning Commission for an 8-24 approval and the commission will act on it as soon as possible.**

Mr. Uzenoff read the amendment, Mr. Larry Roberts made a motion to approve the amendment as stated, motion seconded.

With all unanimously in favor and none opposed, motion carries.

With no further discussion, meeting adjourned at 8:28 PM.

Respectfully submitted

Donna M. Anastasia, Secretary